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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/004,040	01/07/1998	LOVELL BRENT IVIE	T2701.DIV	9760

20451 7590 02/03/2003

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EXAMINER

SRIVASTAVA, VIVEK

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2611

DATE MAILED: 02/03/2003

remailed w/ new  
response time. *AN*

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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DATE MAILED:

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.  
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

OFFICE ACTION SUMMARY

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 D.C. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- ☒ Claims 1-24 are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
- ☐ received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of Reference Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

-- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES --



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09/004,040	01/07/1998	LOVELL BRENT IVIE	T2701.DIV	9760

7590 10/02/2002

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SANDY, UT 84070

EXAMINER

SRIVASTAVA, VIVEK

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2611

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## DETAILED ACTION

### *Election/Restriction*

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
  - I. Claims 1-10, drawn to Communication cable installation, classified in class 439, subclass 578.
  - II. Claims 11-14, drawn to Adapting multiline telephone hub, classified in class 379, subclass 326 or 399.
  - III. Claims 15-19, drawn to distributing audio signals from a central location, classified in class 381, subclass 77-85.
  - IV. Claims 20-24, drawn to distributing audio and video, classified in class 725, subclass 74, 143 or 148.
2. Inventions I, II, III and IV are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, each invention has separate utility (see below). See MPEP § 806.05(d).

Invention (claims 1-10) is directed towards communication cable installation including mounting and securing cables and has a separate utility in the art of electrical connectors. Class

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439 is directed towards electrical connectors and in particular, subclass 578 is directed towards connectors for cables.

Invention II (claims 11-14) is directed towards telephonic communications and in particular towards a multi-line telephone distribution hub and the structure or equipment in the hub and has a separate utility in the telephonic communications. Class 379 is directed towards telephonic communications and in particular, subclass 326 is directed towards wire or cable distribution included in the structure and equipment in a telephonic communication system.

Invention III (claims 15-19) is directed towards distributing audio signals from a central location to a plurality of zones contained within a structure and has separate utility in the field of audio distribution. Class 381 is directed towards electrical audio signal processing systems and devices, in particular, subclasses 77-85 is directed towards one-way audio signal program distribution.

Invention IV (claims 20-24) is directed towards distributing audio and video signals within a room and has a separate utility in video distribution. Class 725 is directed towards video distribution systems including local video distribution systems in subclass 74 and video distribution system components in subclass 143.

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3. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

4. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CAR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CAR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CAR 1.17(I).

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

**Or:**

(703) 308- 5399 (for informal or draft communications, please label

"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington. VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vivek Srivastava whose telephone number is (703) 305 - 4038. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andy Faile, can be reached at (703) 305 - 4380.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305 - 3900.

VS 9/30/02



**VIVEK SRIVASTAVA**  
**PATENT EXAMINER**